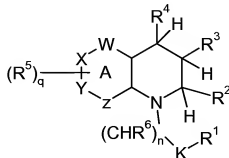


**Amendments to the Claims**

1. (Currently Amended) A compound of formula



wherein

n is 0, 1, or 2;

q is 0, 1, or 2;

W, X, Y and Z are each independently CH, C, N, S, or O with appropriate single or double bonds and/or hydrogen atoms to complete valency requirements;

Ring A is a five or six member ring wherein one of W, X, Y and Z may be absent; provided that ring A is not phenyl;

K is a bond, C=O, or S(O)<sub>p</sub>;

p is 0, 1 or 2;

n is 0, 1, or 2;

~~R<sup>1</sup>~~-when n is 0, ~~and K~~ is C=O or S(O)<sub>p</sub>, ~~and R<sup>1</sup>~~ is selected from a group consisting of -OC<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkyl, -O-aryl, -OC<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkenyl, -OC<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> haloalkyl, -OC<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkylheterocyclic, -OC<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>8</sub> cycloalkyl, -OC<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkylcycloalkyl, -NR<sup>7</sup>R<sup>8</sup>, -OC<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkylaryl, -O-heterocyclic, -OC<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>alkylCO<sub>2</sub>R<sup>11</sup>, -OC<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>alkylalcohol, -OC<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkylNR<sup>7</sup>R<sup>8</sup>, -OC<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkylcyano, CONR<sup>11</sup>R<sup>12</sup>, NR<sup>11</sup>SO<sub>2</sub>R<sup>12</sup>, NR<sup>11</sup>COR<sup>12</sup>, C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>3</sub> alkylNR<sup>11</sup>R<sup>12</sup>, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>3</sub> alkylCOR<sup>11</sup>, C<sub>0</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkylCOOR<sup>11</sup>and wherein each cycloalkyl, aryl and heterocyclic group is optionally substituted with 1 to 3 groups independently selected from oxo, hydroxy, halo, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkyl, C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkenyl, C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkynyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkoxy, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> haloalkyl, -C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkylalcohol, OC<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkylalcohol, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> haloalkoxy, CONR<sup>11</sup>R<sup>12</sup>, NR<sup>11</sup>SO<sub>2</sub>R<sup>12</sup>, NR<sup>11</sup>COR<sup>12</sup>, C<sub>0</sub>-C<sub>3</sub> alkylNR<sup>11</sup>R<sup>12</sup>, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>3</sub> alkylCOR<sup>11</sup>, C<sub>0</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkylCOOR<sup>11</sup>, C<sub>0</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkylcyano, -OC<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>alkylcyano, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkylcycloalkyl, phenyl, -OC<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkylcycloalkyl, -OC<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkylaryl, -OC<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkylheterocyclic, and C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkylaryl;

~~R<sup>1</sup>~~-when n is 1 or 2, ~~and K~~ is a bond, and R<sup>1</sup> is selected from a group consisting of hydroxy, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkyl, C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkenyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> haloalkyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkylheterocyclic, C<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>

cycloalkyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkylcycloalkyl; C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkylaryl, aryl, heterocyclyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkylalcohol, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkylNR<sup>7</sup>R<sup>8</sup>, wherein each cycloalkyl, aryl and heterocyclic is optionally substituted with 1 or 2 groups independently selected from the groups consisting of oxo, hydroxy, halo, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkyl, C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkenyl, C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkynyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkoxy, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> haloalkyl, -C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkylalcohol, OC<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkylalcohol, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> haloalkoxy, CONR<sup>11</sup>R<sup>12</sup>, NR<sup>11</sup>SO<sub>2</sub>R<sup>12</sup>, NR<sup>11</sup>COR<sup>12</sup>, C<sub>0</sub>-C<sub>3</sub> alkylNR<sup>11</sup>R<sup>12</sup>, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>3</sub> alkylCOR<sup>11</sup>, C<sub>0</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkylCOOR<sup>11</sup>, C<sub>0</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkylcyano, -OC<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>alkylcyano, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkylcycloalkyl, phenyl, -OC<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkylcycloalkyl, -OC<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkylaryl, -OC<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkylheterocyclic, and C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkylaryl;

R<sup>2</sup> is each independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, halo, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkyl, C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkenyl, C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkynyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> haloalkyl, OC<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkyl, ~~C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkylaryl, aryl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkylNR<sup>7</sup>R<sup>8</sup>, heteroaryl, heterocyclyl, C<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>8</sub> cycloalkyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkylcycloalkyl and C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkylheterocyclyl, and substituted C<sub>0</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkylaryl~~; wherein the aryl group is substituted and each cycloalkyl, ~~aryl~~, or heterocyclic is optionally substituted with 1 to 3 groups independently selected from oxo, hydroxy, halo, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkyl, C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkenyl, C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkynyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alcohol, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkoxy, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> haloalkyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> haloalkoxy, CONR<sup>11</sup>R<sup>12</sup>, NR<sup>11</sup>SO<sub>2</sub>R<sup>12</sup>, NR<sup>11</sup>COR<sup>12</sup>, C<sub>0</sub>-C<sub>3</sub> alkylNR<sup>11</sup>R<sup>12</sup>, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>3</sub> alkylCOR<sup>11</sup>, C<sub>0</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkylCOOR<sup>11</sup>, cyano, and phenyl;

R<sup>3</sup> is each independently selected from hydrogen, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkyl, aryl, C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkenyl, C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkynyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkylaryl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkylheterocyclic, C<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>8</sub> cycloalkyl, or C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkylcycloalkyl;

R<sup>4</sup> is a group represented by the formula -NR<sup>9</sup>R<sup>10</sup>;

R<sup>5</sup> is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, halogen, hydroxy, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkyl, C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkenyl, C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkynyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkoxy, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> haloalkyl, C<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>8</sub> cycloalkyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkylcycloalkyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkylaryl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkylheterocyclic, aryl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkylaryl, heteroaryl, aryloxy, -OC<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkenyl, -OC<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> haloalkyl, -NR<sup>7</sup>R<sup>8</sup>, and -OC<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkylaryl; and wherein when q is 1, 2 or 3, two adjacent R<sup>5</sup> groups may combine to form a fused 5 or 6 member optionally substituted carbocyclic or heterocyclic ring with ring A;

R<sup>6</sup> is independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkyl, C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkenyl, hydroxy, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkyl, C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkenyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkoxy, aryloxy, -OC<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkenyl, -OC<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> haloalkyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkylNR<sup>7</sup>R<sup>8</sup>, C<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>8</sub> cycloalkyl, and C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkylcycloalkyl;

R<sup>7</sup> and R<sup>8</sup> are independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkylcycloalkyl, C<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>8</sub> cycloalkyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkylheterocyclic, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> haloalkyl, NR<sup>11</sup>R<sup>12</sup>, hydroxy, oxo, COOH, C(O)OC<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub> alkyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkyl, C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkenyl, C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkynyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkoxy, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkylalcohol, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkylamine, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkylaryl, C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkenylaryl, C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>

alkynylaryl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkyl-O-C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkylaryl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkyl-NR<sup>11</sup>-C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkylaryl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkylcyano, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkylCONR<sup>7</sup>R<sup>8</sup>, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkylNR<sup>7</sup>R<sup>8</sup>, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>alkylNR<sup>11</sup>COR<sup>12</sup>, and aryl, wherein each cycloalkyl or aryl group is optionally substituted with halo, hydroxy, oxo, amino, COOH, C(O)OC<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub> alkyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> haloalkyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkyl, C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkenyl, C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkynyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkoxy, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkylalcohol, and C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkylamine; or R<sup>7</sup> and R<sup>8</sup> combine to form a nitrogen containing heterocyclic ring which may have 0, 1, or 2 additional hetero-atoms selected from oxygen, nitrogen or sulfur and may be optionally substituted with oxo, or C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkyl;

R<sup>9</sup> is the group C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkyl, C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkenyl, C<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>8</sub> cycloalkyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkylcycloalkyl, aryl, heterocyclic, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkylheterocyclic, COR<sup>7</sup>, CO<sub>2</sub>R<sup>7</sup>, C<sub>0</sub>-C<sub>3</sub> alkylCONR<sup>7</sup>R<sup>8</sup>, C<sub>0</sub>-C<sub>3</sub> alkylS(O)<sub>p</sub>NR<sup>7</sup>R<sup>8</sup>, or C<sub>0</sub>-C<sub>3</sub> alkylS(O)<sub>p</sub>R<sup>7</sup> wherein R<sup>7</sup> is as defined above, and wherein each alkyl, cycloalkyl, aryl, and heterocyclic is optionally substituted with one to two groups independently selected from halo, hydroxy, oxo, COOH, C(O)OC<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub> alkyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> haloalkyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkyl, C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkenyl, C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkynyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkoxy, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkylalcohol, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkylamine, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkylaryl, C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkenylaryl, C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkynylaryl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkylheterocyclic, -NR<sup>7</sup>R<sup>8</sup>, C<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>8</sub> cycloalkyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkylcycloalkyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkyl-O-C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkylaryl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkyl-NR<sup>11</sup>-C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkylaryl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkylcyano, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkylCONR<sup>7</sup>R<sup>8</sup>, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkylNR<sup>7</sup>R<sup>8</sup>, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>alkylNR<sup>11</sup>COR<sup>12</sup>, and aryl, wherein each cycloalkyl or aryl group is optionally substituted with halo, hydroxy, oxo, amino, COOH, C(O)OC<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub> alkyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> haloalkyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkyl, C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkenyl, C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkynyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkoxy, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkylalcohol, and C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkylamine, provided that when W is N and X, Y, and Z are all C, R<sup>9</sup> is selected from the group COR<sup>7</sup>, CO<sub>2</sub>R<sup>7</sup>, C<sub>0</sub>-C<sub>3</sub> alkylCONR<sup>7</sup>R<sup>8</sup>, C<sub>0</sub>-C<sub>3</sub> alkylS(O)<sub>p</sub>NR<sup>7</sup>R<sup>8</sup>, or C<sub>0</sub>-C<sub>3</sub> alkylS(O)<sub>p</sub>R<sup>7</sup>;

R<sup>10</sup> is selected from the group consisting of aryl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkylaryl, C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkenylaryl, C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkynylaryl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> haloalkylaryl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkylheterocyclic, C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkenylheterocyclic, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkylcycloalkyl, C<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>8</sub> cycloalkyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkyl-O-C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkylaryl, and wherein each cycloalkyl, aryl, or heterocyclic group is optionally substituted with 1-3 groups independently selected from the group consisting of hydroxy, oxo, -SC<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkenyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkynyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> haloalkyl, halogen, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkoxy, aryloxy, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkenyloxy, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> haloalkoxyalkyl, C<sub>0</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkylNR<sup>11</sup>R<sup>12</sup>, -OC<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkylaryl, nitro, cyano, -OC<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> haloalkyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> haloalkylalcohol, and C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkylalcohol;

R<sup>11</sup> and R<sup>12</sup> are independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkenyl, C<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>8</sub> cycloalkyl, heterocyclic, aryl, and C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkylaryl, wherein each aryl group is optionally substituted with 1-3 groups independently selected from halogen, C<sub>1</sub>-

C<sub>6</sub> alkylheterocyclic, and C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> haloalkyl, or R<sup>11</sup> and R<sup>12</sup> combine to form a nitrogen containing heterocyclic ring which may have 0, 1, or 2 additional heteroatoms selected from oxygen, nitrogen or sulfur and is optionally substituted with oxo, or C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkyl; or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt, ~~solvate~~, enantiomer, racemate, diastereomer or mixture of diastereomers thereof.

2. (Currently Amended) A compound according to Claim 1, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt, enantiomer, racemate, diastereomer or mixture of diastereomers thereof wherein n is zero, ~~the~~ K is C=O and R<sup>1</sup> is selected from a group consisting of -OC<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkyl, O-aryl, -OC<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkenyl, -OC<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> haloalkyl, -OC<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>8</sub> cycloalkyl, -OC<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkylcycloalkyl, -OC<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkylaryl, -O heterocyclic, and -OC<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>alkylCO<sub>2</sub>R<sup>11</sup>, -OC<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>alkylalcohol, -OC<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkylNR<sup>7</sup>R<sup>8</sup>, -OC<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkylcyano -OC<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkylheterocyclic, wherein each cycloalkyl, aryl and heterocyclic group is optionally substituted with 1 to 3 groups independently selected from C<sub>0</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkylCOOR<sup>11</sup>, C<sub>0</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkylalcohol, C<sub>0</sub>-C<sub>3</sub> alkylNR<sup>11</sup>R<sup>12</sup>, and C<sub>0</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkylcyano.

3. (Currently Amended) A compound according to Claim 1, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt, enantiomer, racemate, diastereomer or mixture of diastereomers thereof wherein n is 1, ~~the~~ K is a bond and R<sup>1</sup> is selected from a group consisting of C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkenyl, C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> haloalkyl, C<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>8</sub> cycloalkyl, aryl, and heterocyclic wherein each cycloalkyl, aryl, or heterocyclic is optionally substituted with 1 or 2 groups selected from C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>3</sub> alkylalcohol, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>3</sub> alkylamine, C<sub>0</sub>-C<sub>3</sub> alkylCOOH, C<sub>0</sub>-C<sub>3</sub> alkylCONH<sub>2</sub>, and C<sub>0</sub>-C<sub>3</sub> alkylC(O)OC<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>3</sub> alkyl.

4. (Currently Amended) A compound according to Claim 1, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt, enantiomer, racemate, diastereomer or mixture of diastereomers thereof wherein R<sup>4</sup> is NR<sup>9</sup>R<sup>10</sup> and R<sup>9</sup> is a heterocyclic group optionally substituted with one to two groups independently selected from OH, halo, amino, C(O)OC<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub> alkyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> haloalkyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkyl, C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkenyl, C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkynyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkoxy, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkylalcohol, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkylamine, C<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>8</sub> cycloalkyl, and C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkylcycloalkyl, ~~or a C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkylC<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkylcyano, or a C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkylC<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkylCONR<sup>7</sup>R<sup>8</sup>, or a C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkylC<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkylCO<sub>2</sub>R<sup>11</sup>.~~

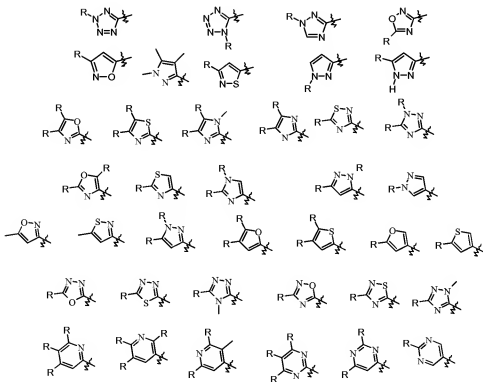
5. (Currently Amended) A compound according to Claim 1, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt, enantiomer, racemate, diastereomer or mixture of diastereomers thereof,

wherein the A ring is selected from the group consisting of pyridine, pyrazine, thiophene, pyrrole isoxazole, oxazole, and thiazole.

6. (Currently Amended) A compound according to Claim 1, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt, enantiomer, racemate, diastereomer or mixture of diastereomers thereof wherein the A ring is pyridine.

7. (Currently Amended) A compound according to Claim 1, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt, enantiomer, racemate, diastereomer or mixture of diastereomers thereof wherein the A ring is thiophene.

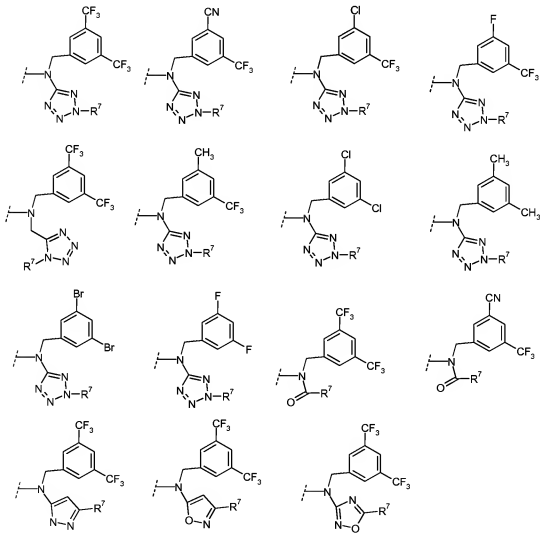
8. (Currently Amended) A compound according to Claim 1, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt, enantiomer, racemate, diastereomer or mixture of diastereomers thereof wherein each R<sup>3</sup> is hydrogen and R<sup>4</sup> is NR<sup>9</sup>R<sup>10</sup> and R<sup>9</sup> is selected from the group consisting of:



wherein R is independently H, OH, NR<sup>7</sup>R<sup>8</sup> or C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>3</sub> alkyl wherein C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>3</sub> alkyl group is optionally substituted with OH, halo, cyano, CONR<sup>7</sup>R<sup>8</sup>, CO<sub>2</sub>R<sup>11</sup>, or NR<sup>7</sup>R<sup>8</sup>.

9. (Currently Amended) A compound according to Claim 1, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt, enantiomer, racemate, diastereomer or mixture of diastereomers thereof wherein two R<sup>5</sup> groups combine to form a fused cyclopentane or cyclohexane ring with ring A.

10. (Currently Amended) A compound according to Claim 1, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt, enantiomer, racemate, diastereomer or mixture of diastereomers thereof wherein R<sup>4</sup> is selected from the group consisting of:



wherein R<sup>7</sup> is OH, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>3</sub> alkyl, -OC<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>3</sub> alkyl, or C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>3</sub> haloalkyl.

11. (Currently Amended) A compound selected from the group consisting of:

4-[Acetyl-(3,5-bis-trifluoromethyl-benzyl)-amino]-2-ethyl-7-methyl-3,4-dihydro-2*H*-[1,8]naphthyridine-1-carboxylic acid isopropyl ester,

Cis-4-[acetyl-(3,5-bis-trifluoromethyl-benzyl)-amino]-2-ethyl-6-methoxy-3,4-dihydro-2*H*-[1,5]naphthyridine-1-carboxylic acid isopropyl ester ,

Cis-4-[(3,5-bis-trifluoromethyl-benzyl)-(2*H*-tetrazol-5-yl)-amino]-2-ethyl-6-methoxy-3,4-dihydro-2*H*-[1,5]naphthyridine-1-carboxylic acid isopropyl ester,

Cis-4-[(3,5-bis-trifluoromethyl-benzyl)-(2-methyl-2*H*-tetrazol-5-yl)-amino]-2-ethyl-6-methoxy-3,4-dihydro-2*H*-[1,5]naphthyridine-1-carboxylic acid isopropyl ester,

7-[Acetyl-(3,5-bis-trifluoromethyl-benzyl)-amino]-5-ethyl-6,7-dihydro-5*H*-thieno[3,2-*b*]pyridine-4-carboxylic acid isopropyl ester,

(+/-)-cis-4-[Acetyl-(3,5-bis-trifluoromethyl-benzyl)-amino]-2-ethyl-6-bromo-3,4-dihydro-2*H*-[1,5]naphthyridine-1-carboxylic acid isopropyl ester,

(+/-)-cis-4-[Acetyl-(3,5-bis-trifluoromethyl-benzyl)-amino]-2-ethyl-6-dimethylamino-3,4-dihydro-2*H*-[1,5]naphthyridine-1-carboxylic acid isopropyl ester,

(+/-)-cis-4-[Acetyl-(3,5-bis-trifluoromethyl-benzyl)-amino]-2-ethyl-6-methyl-3,4-dihydro-2*H*-[1,5]naphthyridine-1-carboxylic acid isopropyl ester,

(2*R*,4*S*)-4-[(3,5-Bis-trifluoromethyl-benzyl)-2-methyl-2*H*-tetrazol-5-yl)-amino]-2-ethyl-6-trifluoromethyl-3,4-dihydro-2*H*-[1,5]naphthyridine-1-carboxylic acid isopropyl ester,

(+/-)-cis-4-[[2-(2-Amino-ethyl)-2*H*-tetrazol-5-yl]-(3,5-bis-trifluoromethyl-benzyl)-amino]-2-ethyl-6-trifluoromethyl-3,4-dihydro-2*H*-[1,5]naphthyridine-1-carboxylic acid isopropyl ester,

(2*S*,4*R*)-cis-4-[[2-(2-Amino-ethyl)-2*H*-tetrazol-5-yl]-(3,5-bis-trifluoromethyl-benzyl)-amino]-2-ethyl-6-trifluoromethyl-3,4-dihydro-2*H*-[1,5]naphthyridine-1-carboxylic acid isopropyl ester,

(2*R*,4*S*)-cis-4-[[2-(2-Amino-ethyl)-2*H*-tetrazol-5-yl]-(3,5-bis-trifluoromethyl-benzyl)-amino]-2-ethyl-6-trifluoromethyl-3,4-dihydro-2*H*-[1,5]naphthyridine-1-carboxylic acid isopropyl ester,

(+/-)-cis and trans-4-[(3,5-Bis-trifluoromethyl-benzyl)-[2-(2-hydroxy-ethyl)-2*H*-tetrazol-5-yl)-amino]-2-ethyl-6-trifluoromethyl-3,4-dihydro-2*H*-[1,5]naphthyridine-1-carboxylic acid isopropyl ester,

(2*R*,4*S*)-4-[(3,5-Bis-trifluoromethyl-benzyl)-[2-(2-hydroxy-ethyl)-2*H*-tetrazol-5-yl)-amino]-2-ethyl-6-trifluoromethyl-3,4-dihydro-2*H*-[1,5]naphthyridine-1-carboxylic acid isopropyl ester,

(2*S*,4*R*)-4-[(3,5-Bis-trifluoromethyl-benzyl)-[2-(2-hydroxy-ethyl)-2*H*-tetrazol-5-yl)-amino]-2-ethyl-6-trifluoromethyl-3,4-dihydro-2*H*-[1,5]naphthyridine-1-carboxylic acid-isopropyl ester;

(+/-)-4-[(3,5-Bis-trifluoromethyl-benzyl)-[2-methyl-2*H*-tetrazol-5-yl)-amino]-2-ethyl-6-trifluoromethyl-3,4-dihydro-2*H*-[1,5]naphthyridine-1-carboxylic acid-isopropyl ester;

(2*R*,4*S*)-4-[(3,5-Bis-trifluoromethyl-benzyl)-[2-methyl-2*H*-tetrazol-5-yl)-amino]-2-ethyl-6-trifluoromethyl-3,4-dihydro-2*H*-[1,5]naphthyridine-1-carboxylic acid-isopropyl ester trifluoroacetate;

(2*S*,4*R*)-4-[(3,5-Bis-trifluoromethyl-benzyl)-[2-methyl-2*H*-tetrazol-5-yl)-amino]-2-ethyl-6-trifluoromethyl-3,4-dihydro-2*H*-[1,5]naphthyridine-1-carboxylic acid-isopropyl ester trifluoroacetate;

(+/-)-cis-4-[[2-(2-Amino-ethyl)-2*H*-tetrazol-5-yl]-(3,5-bis-trifluoromethyl-benzyl)-amino]-2-ethyl-6-methyl-3,4-dihydro-2*H*-[1,5]naphthyridine-1-carboxylic acid-isopropyl ester;

(+/-)-cis-4-[(3,5-Bis-trifluoromethyl-benzyl)-[2-(2-hydroxy-ethyl)-2*H*-tetrazol-5-yl)-amino]-2-ethyl-6-methyl-3,4-dihydro-2*H*-[1,5]naphthyridine-1-carboxylic acid-isopropyl ester;

(+/-)-cis-6-Amino-4-[(3,5-bis-trifluoromethyl-benzyl)-[2-methyl-2*H*-tetrazol-5-yl)-amino]-2-ethyl-7-methyl-3,4-dihydro-2*H*-[1,5]naphthyridine-1-carboxylic acid-isopropyl ester;

(+/-)-*trans*-6-Amino-4-[(3,5-bis-trifluoromethyl-benzyl)-(2-methyl-2*H*-tetrazol-5-yl)-amino]-2-ethyl-7-methyl-3,4-dihydro-2*H*-[1,5]naphthyridine-1-carboxylic acid-isopropyl ester;

(+/-)-*cis*-4-[(3,5-Bis-trifluoromethyl-benzyl)-(2-methyl-2*H*-tetrazol-5-yl)-amino]-2-ethyl-6-methoxy-7-methyl-3,4-dihydro-2*H*-[1,5]naphthyridine-1-carboxylic acid-isopropyl ester;

(2*R*,4*S*)-4-[(3,5-Bis-trifluoromethyl-benzyl)-(2-methyl-2*H*-tetrazol-5-yl)-amino]-2-ethyl-6-trifluoromethyl-3,4-dihydro-2*H*-[1,5]naphthyridine-1-carboxylic acid-ethyl ester;

(2*R*,4*S*)-4-[(3,5-Bis-trifluoromethyl-benzyl)-(2-methyl-2*H*-tetrazol-5-yl)-amino]-2-ethyl-6-trifluoromethyl-3,4-dihydro-2*H*-[1,5]naphthyridine-1-carboxylic acid-2-dimethylamino-ethyl ester;

(2*R*,4*S*)-4-[(3,5-Bis-trifluoromethyl-benzyl)-(2-methyl-2*H*-tetrazol-5-yl)-amino]-2-ethyl-6-trifluoromethyl-3,4-dihydro-2*H*-[1,5]naphthyridine-1-carboxylic acid-tetrahydro-pyran-4-yl ester;

(2*R*,4*S*)-4-[(3,5-Bis-trifluoromethyl-benzyl)-(2-methyl-2*H*-tetrazol-5-yl)-amino]-2-ethyl-6-trifluoromethyl-3,4-dihydro-2*H*-[1,5]naphthyridine-1-carboxylic acid-1-methyl-piperidin-4-yl ester;



(2*R*,3'*R*,4*S*)-4-[(3,5-Bis-trifluoromethyl-benzyl)-(2-methyl-2H-tetrazol-5-yl)-amino]-2-ethyl-6-trifluoromethyl-3,4-dihydro-2H-[1,5]naphthyridine-1-carboxylic acid tetrahydro-furan-3-yl ester;

(2*R*,3'*S*,4*S*)-4-[(3,5-Bis-trifluoromethyl-benzyl)-(2-methyl-2H-tetrazol-5-yl)-amino]-2-ethyl-6-trifluoromethyl-3,4-dihydro-2H-[1,5]naphthyridine-1-carboxylic acid tetrahydro-furan-3-yl ester;

(2*R*,4*S*)-4-[(3,5-Bis-trifluoromethyl-benzyl)-(2-methyl-2H-tetrazol-5-yl)-amino]-2-ethyl-6-trifluoromethyl-3,4-dihydro-2H-[1,5]naphthyridine-1-carboxylic acid 2-morpholin-4-yl-ethyl ester;

(2*R*,4*S*)-4-[(3,5-Bis-trifluoromethyl-benzyl)-(2-methyl-2H-tetrazol-5-yl)-amino]-2-ethyl-6-trifluoromethyl-3,4-dihydro-2H-[1,5]naphthyridine-1-carboxylic acid 2-(4-methyl-piperazin-1-yl)-ethyl-ester;

(2*R*,4*S*)-4-[(3,5-Bis-trifluoromethyl-benzyl)-(2-methyl-2H-tetrazol-5-yl)-amino]-2-ethyl-6-trifluoromethyl-3,4-dihydro-2H-[1,5]naphthyridine-1-carboxylic acid 2-methoxycarbonyl-2-methyl-propyl ester;

(2*R*,4*S*)-4-[(3,5-Bis-trifluoromethyl-benzyl)-(2-methyl-2H-tetrazol-5-yl)-amino]-2-ethyl-6-trifluoromethyl-3,4-dihydro-2H-[1,5]naphthyridine-1-carboxylic acid 2-carboxy-2-methyl-propyl ester;

(2*R*,4*S*)-4-[(3,5-Bis-trifluoromethyl-benzyl)-(2-methyl-2H-tetrazol-5-yl)-amino]-2-ethyl-6-trifluoromethyl-3,4-dihydro-2H-[1,5]naphthyridine-1-carboxylic acid 2-cyano-ethyl ester;

(2*R*,4*S*)-4-[(3,5-Bis-trifluoromethyl-benzyl)-(2-methyl-2H-tetrazol-5-yl)-amino]-2-ethyl-6-trifluoromethyl-3,4-dihydro-2H-[1,5]naphthyridine-1-carboxylic acid 2-(2H-tetrazol-5-yl)-ethyl ester;

(2*R*,4*S*)-4-[(3,5-Bis-trifluoromethyl-benzyl)-(2-methyl-2H-tetrazol-5-yl)-amino]-2-ethyl-6-trifluoromethyl-3,4-dihydro-2H-[1,5]naphthyridine-1-carboxylic acid 2-benzyloxy-ethyl ester;

(2*R*,4*S*)-4-[(3,5-Bis-trifluoromethyl-benzyl)-(2-methyl-2H-tetrazol-5-yl)-amino]-2-ethyl-6-trifluoromethyl-3,4-dihydro-2H-[1,5]naphthyridine-1-carboxylic acid 2-hydroxy-ethyl ester;

(+/-) cis-4-[(3,5-Bis-trifluoromethylbenzyl)-(5-methyl-1*H*-pyrazol-3-yl)amino]-2-ethyl-6-trifluoromethyl-3,4-dihydro-2H-[1,5]naphthyridine-1-carboxylic acid isopropyl ester;

(+/-) cis-4-[(3,5-Bis-trifluoromethylbenzyl)-(3-methyl-isoxazol-5-yl)-amino]-2-ethyl-6-trifluoromethyl-3,4-dihydro-2H-[1,5]naphthyridine-1-carboxylic acid isopropyl ester;

(+/-)-cis-4-[(3,5-Bis-trifluoromethyl-benzyl)-(5-methyl-[1,2,4]oxadiazol-3-yl)-amino]-2-ethyl-6-trifluoromethyl-3,4-dihydro-2H-[1,5]naphthyridine-1-carboxylic acid isopropyl ester,  
 (+/-)-cis-4-[(3,5-Bis-trifluoromethyl-benzyl)-(2,5-dimethyl-2H-pyrazole-3-carbonyl)-amino]-2-ethyl-6-trifluoromethyl-3,4-dihydro-2H-quinoline-1-carboxylic acid isopropyl ester,  
 (+/-)-cis-4-(3,5-Bis-trifluoromethyl-benzyl)-1-(cyclopentylmethyl-2-ethyl-6-methoxy-1,2,3,4-tetrahydro-[1,5]naphthyridine-4-yl)-acetamide,  
 (+/-)-cis-4-[Acetyl-(3,5-bis-trifluoromethyl-benzyl)-amino]-6-methoxy-2-methyl-3,4-dihydro-2H-[1,5]naphthyridine-1-carboxylic acid isopropyl ester,  
 (+/-)-cis-4-[(3,5-Bis-trifluoromethyl-benzyl)-ethoxycarbonyl-amino]-6-methoxy-2-methyl-3,4-dihydro-2H-[1,5]naphthyridine-1-carboxylic acid isopropyl ester,  
 (+/-)-cis-4-[(3,5-Bis-trifluoromethyl-benzyl)-(3-fluoro-5-trifluoromethyl-benzoyl)-amino]-6-methoxy-2-methyl-3,4-dihydro-2H-[1,5]naphthyridine-1-carboxylic acid isopropyl ester,  
 (+/-)-cis-N-(3,5-Bis-trifluoromethyl-benzyl)-N-(1-cyclopentyl-6-methoxy-2-methyl-1,2,3,4-tetrahydro-[1,5]naphthyridine-4-yl)-acetamide,  
 (+/-)-cis-4-[Acetyl-(3,5-bis-trifluoromethyl-benzyl)-amino]-2-methyl-6-trifluoromethyl-3,4-dihydro-2H-[1,5]naphthyridine-1-carboxylic acid isopropyl ester,  
 (+/-)-cis-4-[Acetyl-(3,5-bis-trifluoromethyl-benzyl)-amino]-2-cyclopropyl-6-trifluoromethyl-3,4-dihydro-2H-[1,5]naphthyridine-1-carboxylic acid isopropyl ester,  
 (+/-)-cis-4-[(3,5-Bis-trifluoromethyl-benzyl)-(2-methyl-2H-tetrazol-5-yl)-amino]-2-cyclopropyl-6-trifluoromethyl-3,4-dihydro-2H-[1,5]naphthyridine-1-carboxylic acid isopropyl ester,  
 4-[(3,5-Bis-trifluoromethyl-benzyl)-(5,6,7,8-tetrahydro-quinolin-3-yl)-amino]-2,3-dimethyl-3,4,6,7,8,9-hexahydro-2H-benzo[b][1,5]naphthyridine-1-carboxylic acid isopropyl ester,  
 (2R,4S)-4-[(3,5-Bis-trifluoromethyl-benzyl)-(2-methyl-2H-tetrazol-5-yl)-amino]-2-ethyl-6-methyl-3,4-dihydro-2H-[1,5]naphthyridine-1-carboxylic acid methyl ester,  
 (2R,4S)-4-[(3,5-Bis-trifluoromethyl-benzyl)-(2-methyl-2H-tetrazol-5-yl)-amino]-2-ethyl-6-methyl-3,4-dihydro-2H-[1,5]naphthyridine-1-carboxylic acid ethyl ester,  
 (2R,4S)-4-[(3,5-Bis-trifluoromethyl-benzyl)-(2-methyl-2H-tetrazol-5-yl)-amino]-2,6-dimethyl-3,4-dihydro-2H-[1,5]naphthyridine-1-carboxylic acid methyl ester,  
 (2R,4S)-4-[(3,5-Bis-trifluoromethyl-benzyl)-(2-methyl-2H-tetrazol-5-yl)-amino]-2,6-dimethyl-3,4-dihydro-2H-[1,5]naphthyridine-1-carboxylic acid ethyl ester,  
 (2R,4S)-4-[(3,5-Bis-trifluoromethyl-benzyl)-(2-methyl-2H-tetrazol-5-yl)-amino]-2,6-dimethyl-3,4-dihydro-2H-[1,5]naphthyridine-1-carboxylic acid isopropyl ester,

(2*R*,4*S*)-4-[(3-Cyano-5-trifluoromethyl-benzyl)-(2-methyl-2*H*-tetrazol-5-yl)-amino]-2-ethyl-6-trifluoromethyl-3,4-dihydro-2*H*-[1,5]naphthyridine-1-carboxylic acid isopropyl ester;  
 (2*R*,4*S*)-4-[(3,5-Dichloro-benzyl)-(2-methyl-2*H*-tetrazol-5-yl)-amino]-2-ethyl-6-trifluoromethyl-3,4-dihydro-2*H*-[1,5]naphthyridine-1-carboxylic acid isopropyl ester;  
 (2*R*,4*S*)-4-[(3-Chloro-5-trifluoromethyl-benzyl)-(2-methyl-2*H*-tetrazol-5-yl)-amino]-2-ethyl-6-trifluoromethyl-3,4-dihydro-2*H*-[1,5]naphthyridine-1-carboxylic acid isopropyl ester;  
 (2*R*,4*S*)-2-Ethyl-4-[(3-fluoro-5-trifluoromethyl-benzyl)-(2-methyl-2*H*-tetrazol-5-yl)-amino]-6-trifluoromethyl-3,4-dihydro-2*H*-[1,5]naphthyridine-1-carboxylic acid isopropyl ester;  
 (2*R*,4*S*)-4-[(3,5-Dimethyl-benzyl)-(2-methyl-2*H*-tetrazol-5-yl)-amino]-2-ethyl-6-trifluoromethyl-3,4-dihydro-2*H*-[1,5]naphthyridine-1-carboxylic acid isopropyl ester;  
 (2*R*,4*S*)-4-[(3,5-Difluoro-benzyl)-(2-methyl-2*H*-tetrazol-5-yl)-amino]-2-ethyl-6-trifluoromethyl-3,4-dihydro-2*H*-[1,5]naphthyridine-1-carboxylic acid isopropyl ester;  
 (2*R*,4*S*)-4-[[2-(2-Amino-ethyl)-2*H*-tetrazol-5-yl]-(3,5-bis-trifluoromethyl-benzyl)-amino]-2-ethyl-6-methyl-3,4-dihydro-2*H*-[1,5]naphthyridine-1-carboxylic acid-methyl ester;  
 (2*R*,4*S*)-4-[(3,5-Bis-trifluoromethyl-benzyl)-[2-(2-hydroxy-ethyl)-2*H*-tetrazol-5-yl]-amino]-2-ethyl-6-methyl-3,4-dihydro-2*H*-[1,5]naphthyridine-1-carboxylic acid-methyl ester;  
 (2*R*,4*S*)-4-[[2-(2-Amino-ethyl)-2*H*-tetrazol-5-yl]-(3,5-bis-trifluoromethyl-benzyl)-amino]-2-ethyl-6-methyl-3,4-dihydro-2*H*-[1,5]naphthyridine-1-carboxylic acid-ethyl ester;  
 (2*R*,4*S*)-4-[(3,5-Bis-trifluoromethyl-benzyl)-[2-(2-hydroxy-ethyl)-2*H*-tetrazol-5-yl]-amino]-2-ethyl-6-methyl-3,4-dihydro-2*H*-[1,5]naphthyridine-1-carboxylic acid-ethyl ester;  
 (2*R*,4*S*)-4-[[2-(2-Amino-ethyl)-2*H*-tetrazol-5-yl]-(3-cyano-5-trifluoromethyl-benzyl)-amino]-2-ethyl-6-trifluoromethyl-3,4-dihydro-2*H*-[1,5]naphthyridine-1-carboxylic acid isopropyl ester;  
 (2*R*,4*S*)-4-[(3-Cyano-5-trifluoromethyl-benzyl)-[2-(2-hydroxy-ethyl)-2*H*-tetrazol-5-yl]-amino]-2-ethyl-6-trifluoromethyl-3,4-dihydro-2*H*-[1,5]naphthyridine-1-carboxylic acid isopropyl ester  
 or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt, solvate enantiomer or diastereomer or mixture thereof.

12. (Currently Amended) A method of regulating CETP activity comprising administering a compound of formula I of claim 1, a pharmaceutically acceptable salt, solvate, enantiomer, racemate, diastereomer or mixture of diastereomers to a patient in need thereof.

13. (Currently Amended) A method of treating ~~or preventing~~ dyslipidemia comprising administering a compound of formula I of claim 1, a pharmaceutically acceptable salt, ~~solvate~~, enantiomer, racemate diastereomer, mixture of diastereomers thereof, to a patient in need thereof.

14. (Currently Amended) A method of treating ~~or preventing~~ atherosclerosis comprising administering a compound of formula I of claim 1, a pharmaceutically acceptable salt, ~~solvate~~, enantiomer, racemate, diastereomer, or mixture of diastereomers thereof to a patient in need thereof.

15. (Currently Amended) A method according to Claim 12, wherein the regulation of CETP activity results in a decrease in plasma LDL-cholesterol levels.

16. (Currently Amended) A method according to Claim 12, wherein the regulation of CETP activity results in an increase in plasma LDL-cholesterol levels.

17. (Currently Amended) A method of increasing plasma HDL-cholesterol in a mammal comprising administering a therapeutically effective ~~dose amount~~ of a compound of formula I of claim 1, a pharmaceutically acceptable salt, ~~solvate~~, enantiomer, racemate, diastereomer, or mixture of diastereomers thereof to a patient in need thereof.

18. (Currently Amended) A method of treating ~~and/or preventing~~ the pathological sequelae due to high levels of plasma LDL-cholesterol in a mammal comprising administering an effective dose of a compound of formula I, pharmaceutically acceptable salt, ~~solvate~~, enantiomer, racemate, diastereomer, or mixture of diastereomers to a patient in need thereof.

19. (Currently Amended) A pharmaceutical composition comprising a compound according to Claim 1, a pharmaceutically acceptable salt, enantiomer, racemate, diastereomer, or mixture of diastereomers thereof, and a carrier, diluent and/or excipient.

20. (Canceled)

21. (New) A composition of claim 19 comprising one or more cardio protective agents selected from the group consisting of: statins, leptin, and lipid regulating agents.

22. (New) A method according to Claim 12, wherein the regulation of CETP activity results in an increase in HDL-cholesterol.

23. (New) A method according to claim 14 comprising administering one or more cardio protective agents selected from the group consisting of: statins, leptin, and lipid regulating agents.